

Daily Eagle

M. M. MURDOCK, Editor.

SATURDAY MORNING, JAN. 22, 1887.

THE BIGGEST CITY IN KANSAS.

"Kicking Bird" Should Kick Less and Fly More.

The particular thing which attracted the attention of the EAGLE's home readers yesterday morning was the statement of our Topeka correspondent that Wichita was the third city in Kansas. This news was, moreover, sent by wire at our cost. It came at the dead hour of midnight, but, all the same it appeared in the live hours of the morning in cold print. Not wishing to attribute mercenary motives to our correspondent, being unwilling to believe that he had been bribed by some of the older towns of the state to make such a statement, we kindly attributed it to his ignorance—to the fact that he hasn't traveled of late and that he was speaking of the Wichita of 1886 rather than the Wichita of 1887—to a lapsus linguae, in short.

Wichita is the biggest city in the state of Kansas, measured by any known standard of greatness. The auditor's books of the respective railroads at this point show that the amount of goods handled by our merchants and manufacturers double that of any other city of Kansas. The total and weekly balances of the Wichita Clearing House show Wichita financially is four or five times greater than any other city in Kansas. We know of no other standard save these for sizing up a city, except that of population. In this we have no statistics, no absolute count or other way of getting at the eight or ten thousand people who have been added to Wichita within a year, but the only towns in the state which can ever make a pretense of a claim for equal population are Leavenworth and Topeka. Of the former there are a number of old residents whose homes are now in Wichita, and who assert that Wichita has a much greater population than Leavenworth, and as for the latter town three of its prominent citizens have within a few weeks acknowledged to us that in population Topeka could not brag over Wichita, and their names will be furnished on application.

The EAGLE's Topeka correspondent would do well to black up his boots, brush back his hair, and come down and see what the metropolis of Kansas is really doing.

Come down.

WAS WASTED WIND.

The State Printer and the Speakership.

There has been a great deal of foolish political talk of late, if such a phrase is not entirely too mild, growing out of the fight for the speakership of the Kansas House of Representatives and that of the State printer, in which talk deep and dark and damnable plots for the formation of new political rings in this state have pretended to be developed. The charge is also made in this connection that Senators Ingalls and Plumb are, respectively, leaders of two factions whose schemes or purposes are to raise shod generally. Newspapers claiming not only respectability but also wisdom and experience running back over years of Kansas political history, are urging on and trying to impress their readers that their is something to it, and that among other things the men who have made Kansas and about whose names cluster all the brilliancy and prominence, and success of which we as a state have to boast, are going to be relegated, set down on, played out and shoved aside, for some new and unknown element of a younger generation who are to summarily and with a grand coup d'etat, apply the glittering blade to that portion of a big fat porcine where it would raise the biggest stink.

This whole hub-bub is without reason or sense. There is no foundation for any of the assertions which coupled the names of Senators Ingalls or Plumb with either the state printer fight or the speakership contest, and the insane howl was raised and is kept up for ulterior and selfish purposes, with the hope that the authors of it may bring about a muddle or upheaval which might throw them to the surface. But these howlers will find in all good time that the solid thinking men who compose the Republican party of Kansas are neither born idiots or graded fools, and that their howl was wasted wind.

"NOW WICHITA."

If Father Millington could only persuade himself into the belief that there was any possibility of his "Now Wichita" being true, he would be the happiest man to be found outside of Wichita in southwest Kansas. However we hope that Winfield, Newton, Hutchinson, Wellington and El Dorado will all realize the figures our old friend Millington has marked down for them, for the more flourishing, the more prosperous these towns are the greater Wichita will be. The fear of the writer has been that Wichita would absorb many of the business men and interests of the towns named. This would be unfortunate all round. Let Winfield grow on to the 12,000 the Courier sets for her next year and the other towns correspondingly and let Wichita draw her capital from the older communities of the east. As for Winfield getting ahead of Wichita if our old friend will permit us we will take the chances cheerfully. Its the great and powerful environments that Wichita is now praying for—she can't subsist on small villages.

THE SALARY QUESTION.

To the Editor of the Eagle.

EMPHORIA, Kan., Jan. 20.—To decide a dispute please state what is the sum total of fees or amount of salary received by the register of deeds of Sedgewick county, annually.

J. M. S.

We are unable to state even approximately, but we are safe in saying more than the salary of the president of the United States, by a very considerable sum. The position is held by one Hank Heizerman, a one legged soldier, the biggest hearted, most popular and deserving man in southern Kansas. Wichita is small in nothing, not even in salaries.

RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF KANSAS CITIES.

Col. M. Stewart, secretary Citizens' Bank, hands us the following correct statement compiled from Underwood's Bank Reporter for January and February 1887, the aggregate capital stock of all the banks in each of the following named cities:

Wichita	\$733,000
Topeka	550,000
Leavenworth	550,000
Atchison	510,000
Winfield	455,000
Kansas City, Kan., (including Wyandotte)	325,000
Newton	315,000
Emporia	291,000
Hutchinson	230,000
Fort Scott	225,000
Lawrence	225,000
Wellington	200,000

This may serve to satisfy some people that Wichita is the greatest city in Kansas who have been inclined to doubt the EAGLE's figures heretofore.

INTER-STATE COMMERCE.

The interstate commerce bill passed the House yesterday at 12:30, and now only lacks the president's signature. The entire Kansas delegation voted for it. There is grave apprehension as to the workings of this bill touching Kansas and her interests upon the part of her people, but it seems that their representatives entertain no doubts. We hope that they may have made no mistake.

THE LONG AND SHORT HAUL.

BELLE PLAINE, Jan. 20, 1887.

To the Editor of the Eagle.

I read the EAGLE daily, and think she is a wide awake "bird," but she seems to display some alarm over the interstate commerce bill. I note a communication by Farmer Doolittle. He seems to labor under the same impression as many others that railroads must adjust their short haul rates to the long haul rates. Such is not the fact, as Farmer Doolittle will readily see if he will read the bill carefully. The bill reads railroad companies should not charge a "greater sum" for a short haul for a long haul. To illustrate: Suppose the freight on a car of hogs from Belle Plaine to Kansas City was \$40, and from the same station to Wichita \$50, the company could under the bill charge \$40 to Wichita, but could not charge \$50. Again, the rate on sugar has been higher from San Francisco to Wichita than it was to Kansas City per car load. Under this bill it must be as low per car to Wichita or less, it cannot be higher, as it has formerly been. Again! The freight on a car of pork has been less from Kansas City to Denver than the same could be contracted for from Wichita. Under this bill Wichita can successfully pack pork and will do it. Under this law Wichita will command the trade of the whole south west, and she will "boom and bloom," and don't you forget it.

Respectfully,
O. HAYTHORN.

RECEIVER RICHARDS.

Judge Brewer Settles a Legal Point between Bondholders.

From the Commonwealth.

One of the most important acts of Judge Brewer, in the United States circuit court this week, was the appointment of Hon. J. H. Richards, of Wichita, as receiver of the St. Louis, Fort Scott and Wichita railway.

Mr. Richards has been the general attorney of the road for several years, and during the past six months its vice president, also acting president since the death of H. M. Hoxie, the regularly elected incumbent of that office.

For some six months or more a foreclosing suit had been pending on the part of about one-half of the holders of the first mortgage bonds of the road, while second mortgage bonds were also held, for a comparatively small amount, by other parties. The first mortgage bond holders asked the court for a foreclosure of their mortgage and the appointment of a receiver, and, as they were entitled to do under its terms, demanded the entire sum due, both principal and interest, though only the latter was defaulted.

This, of course brought all the first mortgage bondholders into court, and thereupon the second mortgage bondholders brought a suit of foreclosure also, upon a cross bill. The latter asked for a decree of foreclosure, asked to be allowed to pay off the former entirely, and to be subrogated to all their rights. The first mortgage bondholders could do nothing less, under the circumstances, than accept these terms. The question of how much was outstanding on first and second mortgage bonds was referred to the master in chancery, H. P. Dillon, and upon the filing of his report the court entered up a decree as prayed for in the complaint of both parties and by special agreement of all concerned appointed J. H. Richards as the receiver. This appointment was satisfactory to the stockholders as well as the rest, so that the whole proceedings resulted happily all around.

The St. Louis, Ft. Scott & Wichita was incorporated in 1881. The main line is completed from Fort Scott to Hazelton, southwesterly from Wichita about 100 miles, and will under the decree of the courts, be finished to New Kansas, on the Indian Territory line, in Barber county. It also has a branch line from El Dorado via Newton to McPherson, making in all some 400 miles, every bit of which is operated in connection with the Missouri Pacific. The present changes will in no way alter the general policy of the road or its extensions, but events which promised to be, until recently, a very bitter fight. The road runs through a magnificent country, is well known to all Kansans and has a very bright future. The bonds in question were all held by eastern and European capitalists.

An interesting fact in this connection is that the bond given by Mr. Richards, which was filed by the court at \$100,000, was made up in Wichita, was signed by five citizens of Wichita, three of whom are citizens connected with the Wichita National bank, and that by the oath of all five, in justification on the bond, each is worth \$200,000 over and above all legal liabilities and exemptions. These men all made their money in Kansas within the last few years.

W. Lowry, N. F. Neiderlander, A. W. Oliver, N. A. English and Wm. Griffee, Receiver Richards was in the city yesterday but will leave for home today.

THE SESSION OF 1885.

Reminiscences of Twenty-two Years Ago By an Ex-Member.

Jacob Stoffer in Emporia Globe.

Let us take a glance at the personnel of different branches of the then state government. It may strike the reader that, considering the length of time that has elapsed, the proportion of men then participating in public affairs, still living and active, is large. This is accounted for on the fact that the men were young, our climate healthy, and the incentive to activity was great.

Samuel J. Crawford had entered upon his first term as governor, James McGrew, still living in Wyandotte, was the lieutenant-governor. Whether this office has a quieting effect upon political ambition or not we are unable to say, but its occupancy seems to have had that effect on most of the gentlemen who used the senate gavel. R. A. Barber, auditor, Wm. Spriggs, treasurer, J. D. Legate, J. E. C. Manning, now of Washington, F. W. Potter, Col. M. Quigg and John Speer were well known state senators, all living but Baker and Gamble. A Smith Devany, late a democratic candidate for state office, was secretary, and M. M. Murdock, whose name has become a synonym for baseness, was clerk.

James R. Mead came to represent far off Butler county and Conrad Kohler, who sits this winter as a senator, made his way down to Topeka from the wilds of Dickinson for the same purpose. Mr. Durbey represented the then almost unknown country of Washington. The Arkansas valley was known only as a region roamed by the buffalo. The rich and populous southern tier of counties where the home of vagabond tribes of Indians. The great northeast was an uninhabited wild.

C. Leland, Jr., is still a well known resident of Doniphan county, and has obtained honorable distinction in various lines of duty; G. W. Glick's history since that session is so well known as not to need mention. Geo. Storch is a resident of that same city of Atchison, president of a bank and has more money than when he sat as a member of that house. J. D. Wells, of Marshall county still comes occasionally to represent the same constituency he represented in 1865. R. C. Foster, then hailing from Leavenworth city, is now a lawyer at Denison, Tex. D. G. Camp still remains a farmer in Johnson county. F. B. Swift, who was one of the gentlemen from Douglas, is now a printer in the office of the Junction City Union. Warner Craig, a colleague of Swift, was in California at last accounts. S. D. McDonald is still a resident of Topeka. W. Guss seems a fixture in Lin county, and served in various offices since that session. N. Z. Strong, chairman of ways and means in 1865, was at Lawrence at last accounts. He then hailed from Fort Scott. Watson Stewart, who represented the county of Allen, is at Independence, Kansas. So far as we know, H. Cavender, then of Garnett, is still living out west. H. A. Cook is in business at Ottawa. Job Throckmorton has been all these years at Burlington, and has held many important positions. J. H. Mead lives in Wichita and has from the start of that city. M. R. Leonard, who then hailed from Chase county, has for years resided at Arkansas City. J. Spencer, we believe, is still at Council Grove, and H. D. Shepherd at Burlingame, while A. W. Callen, widely known as "Old Grizzly," remains a resident of Junction City.

The most quiet and modest member of the house of 1865 was James M. Harvey of Riley, who went to the governor's chair and then to the senate. He now lives in Virginia. Wm. Martindale has lived on the same farm in Greenwood county he did in 1865. Edward Russell, then from Doniphan, is now a resident of Lawrence and has been to the house since from Douglas. Joel Moody, now of Lin county, came up that winter from Woodson, and contested the seat of J. Foster, and ousted him on the ground that Foster was postmaster at Belmont when he was elected to the house. H. Rice remains as a citizen of Miami county, Captain D. L. Payne, who in part represented Doniphan county, George H. Fairchild, M. R. Benton and H. B. Sader, Atchison; C. S. Glick of Wyandotte, Samuel F. Atwood of Leavenworth; Dr. J. Fletcher of Topeka, James Hanway of Franklin, F. R. Page and R. H. Abraham of Lyon, J. F. Broadhead of Linn, M. R. Dutton then of Jefferson but long of Topeka are known to be dead. No doubt a number of those not accounted for have passed to the unknown shore, while some are still living in the state and others are scattered to the east and to the west.

Few of the participants in its work will recur to the session of '65 with other than pleasant recollections. The intercourse of the members was generally pleasant, and the proceedings with a few exceptions harmonious. That legislature did what has never been done since. It completed its work and adjourned after being in session forty-one days, nine days before the limit of the constitutional session expired.

The most important duty that devolved upon the legislature of 1865 was the election of a United States senator to succeed Hon. James H. Lane. He had a hard fight to make the senatorship his, and by 1861 his enemies had gained on him so rapidly that the legislature of that year was against him by a considerable majority. It voted, after heated debates, to go into an election for United States senator. Thomas Carney, who had been elected governor in 1862, was chosen senator. He naturally the anti Lane sentiment was turning to him as its leader, and had it not been for this ill-fated election he would have stood an excellent chance to be senator the next year, which was the proper time for the election. Most people who were then here remember the storm raised by the election. Political excitement swept over the state with the fury of one of our old fashioned prairie fires. Meetings were held at all leading points and the Lane papers teemed with clashing headlines in their boldest and blackest types, denouncing the usurpation of the sacred rights of the people. It gave Lane the opportunity of his lifetime. He was not slow in turning it to his advantage. A better thing for the future of his political position could not have happened. The legislature of 1865 was the result of this excitement and it was a Lane legislature and out of seventy-seven members only sixteen were opposed to him. Of the house, a majority of the members did not care, if they could only see the happy day when they could record their votes for "old Jim," as they fondly called him, and have the presiding officer announce that he was elected to the senate of the United States from Kansas for the term of six years, commencing March 4, 1865. That day came and Lane had 82 out of the 101 votes of the joint convention.

Colwich Rambler: Some of Wichita's wealthiest men intend to build summer residences here, so as to get rest from the busy life of the great city.

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